TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 12, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 7 totaled 343,374, down 3.1 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 1.5 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 2.5 percent in the West and 3.7 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of coal were up 3,396 cars (2.6 percent). Grain was off by 4,850 cars (15.3 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 3,850 cars (19.1 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment loadings fell 1,972 cars (9.9 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 40 weeks of 1989 totaled 13,322,907, down 1.2 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 129,997 trailers and/or containers for the week ended October 7, up 6.2 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 40 weeks of 1989 was 4,543,747 trailers and/or containers, 3.0 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended October 7 totaled 19.8 billion, 2.0 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 40 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 765.1 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 7, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 7, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,775	31,625	-15.3 %	25,837	3.6 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,468	2,693	-8.4	1,963	25.7
Metallic Ores	16,267	20,117	-19.1	17,625	-7.7
Coal	132,344	128,948	2.6	135,130	-2.1
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	18,040	18,827	-4.2	17,277	4.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,417	11,159	-6.6	9,935	4.9
Grain Mill Products	10,052	10,300	-2.4	10,098	-.5
Food & Kindred Products	8,826	9,076	-2.8	8,750	.9
Primary Forest Products	8,956	9,369	-4.4	9,237	-3.0
Lumber & Wood Products	6,114	6,397	-4.4	7,258	-15.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,284	10,306	-.2	10,317	-.3
Chemicals	27,908	27,607	1.1	27,669	.9
Petroleum Products	5,236	5,089	2.9	5,553	-5.7
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,001	11,153	-1.4	11,178	-1.6
Coke	5,626	6,088	-7.6	5,677	-.9
Metals & Products	9,741	8,988	8.4	9,599	1.5
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,004	19,976	-9.9	19,537	-7.8
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,045	9,170	-12.3	8,802	-8.6
All Other Carloads	7,270	7,543	-3.6	7,170	1.4
Total	**343,374**	**354,431**	**-3.1 %**	**348,612**	**-1.5 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 7, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 40 WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 7, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**343,374**	**354,431**	**-3.1 %**	**13,322,907**	**13,479,589**	**-1.2 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	76,726	74,396	3.1	2,635,213	2,661,940	-1.0
Containers	53,271	48,008	11.0	1,908,534	1,748,513	9.2
Total	**129,997**	**122,404**	**6.2**	**4,543,747**	**4,410,453**	**3.0**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.8**	**20.2**	**-2.0 %**	**765.1**	**766.6**	**-.2 %**

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